

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of claims:

1. (Original) An article of footwear comprising a shell (10) and preferably also a leg piece (20), and featuring, at least in selected portions thereof other than the sole (15), a composite structure formed of two layers (30, 40; 30A, 40A) that are made of preferably synthetic materials having different mechanical properties and are provided with mutually interfacing layers (34; 34a, 42; 42A), **characterized in that** at least the interfacing surface (34; 34A) of the layer (30) made of materials with higher mechanical properties is provided with protruding elements (36) that remain inseparably adhering to the other interfacing surface (42; 42A).

2. (Original) An article of footwear according to claim 1, **characterized in that** the layer (40) made of materials with lower mechanical properties is softer and is the one coming directly or indirectly in contact with the foot of the wearer.

3. (Original) An article of footwear according to claim 1, **characterized in that** said protruding elements (36) consists of a plurality of ribs that are made integral with the layer (30), which they are a part of, and are projecting from

the interface surface (34) of the same layer.

4. (Original) An article of footwear according to claim 3, **characterized in that** said ribs (36) intersect each other so as to form a sort of truss-like pattern comprising a plurality of knots (38) over a plate.

5. (Original) An article of footwear according to any of the preceding claims, **characterized in that** said some of said protruding elements are so arranged to create inscriptions, images, logotypes or the like (37, 38) on the interface surface of at least one of said layers (30A, 40A), and that is made of a clear material at least the layer (40A) arranged on the outward facing side of the footwear.

6. (Original) An article of footwear according to claim 5, **characterized in that** at least the protruding elements (36; 37, 38) forming said inscriptions, images, logotypes or the like (37, 38) are provided with a luminescent finishing effect and/or in a different colour with respect to the layer (40A) arranged on the outward facing side of the footwear, which is made of a clear material.

7. (Currently Amended) An article of footwear according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, **characterized in that** the surfaces of said layers (30, 40) other than the interface surfaces thereof, are uniform, i.e. substantially smooth.